

## CHAPTER 2.9.2.

### AMERICAN FOULBROOD

#### Article 2.9.2.1.

For the purposes of this *Code*, the *incubation period* for American foulbrood shall be 15 days (not including the wintering period which may vary according to country).

Standards for diagnostic tests are described in the *Manual*.

#### Article 2.9.2.2.

##### **Country or zone with an official control programme for American foulbrood**

To be considered as a country or zone with an official control programme for American foulbrood, a country or zone should fulfil the following requirements:

- 1) the *Veterinary Administration* has current knowledge of, and authority over, all beehives existing in the country or zone;
- 2) the control programme complies with the general provisions of Appendix 3.4.2., and is supervised by the *Veterinary Administration*;
- 3) American foulbrood is notifiable in the whole country, and any clinical cases suggestive of American foulbrood are subjected to field and laboratory investigations;
- 4) inspection of each hive in the country or zone should be conducted at least every year to provide a confidence level of at least 99% of detecting the disease in honey bee larvae or pupae if it is present at a within brood prevalence rate exceeding 5%;
- 5) all infected hives should be either treated with appropriate antibiotics or destroyed.

#### Article 2.9.2.3.

##### **Country or zone free from American foulbrood**

To be considered free from American foulbrood, a country or zone should fulfil the following requirements:

- 1) an official control programme for American foulbrood has existed in the country or zone for at least 3 years, and no *outbreak* of the disease has been reported during this period;
- 2) then, annual surveys, with negative results, are carried out on a representative sample of all the beehives in the country or zone to provide a confidence level of at least 99% of detecting the disease if at least 0.2% of the hives were infected at a within brood prevalence rate of at least 5%;
- 3) the importation of the *commodities* listed in Article 2.9.2.4. into the country or zone is carried out in conformity with the import conditions contained in the relevant Articles of the present Chapter.

Appendix XIV (contd)

Article 2.9.2.4.

*Veterinary Administrations* of countries shall consider whether there is a risk with regard to American foulbrood in accepting importation or transit through their territory, from other countries, of the following *commodities*:

- 1) queen honey bees and accompanying bees (worker bees);
- 2) used equipment associated with beekeeping;
- 3) honey, honey bee-collected pollen, propolis and royal jelly.

Other *commodities* (honey bee semen and eggs) should be considered as not having the potential to spread American foulbrood when they are the subject of *international trade*.

Article 2.9.2.5.

*Veterinary Administrations* of *importing countries* should require:

for queen honey bees, accompanying bees (worker bees) and drones with or without associated brood combs

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the bees:

- 1) come from a country or zone free from American foulbrood; or
- 2) come from:
  - a) a country or zone with an official control programme for American foulbrood;
  - b) an apiary in which no clinical sign of American foulbrood was reported during the 45 days prior to shipment (not including the wintering period which may vary according to the country);
  - c) hives that were subjected to inspection for American foulbrood in accordance with point 4 of Article 2.9.2.2. on two occasions with negative results, the first inspection being carried out at least 4 months and no more than 12 months, and the second sample no more than 7 days, prior to shipment.

Article 2.9.2.6.

*Veterinary Administrations* of *importing countries* should require:

for used equipment associated with beekeeping

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the equipment was sterilised under the supervision of the *Veterinary Authority* by either immersion in 0.5% sodium hypochlorite for at least 20 minutes, or gamma irradiation using a cobalt-60 source at a dose rate of 10 kGy, or exposure to ethylene oxide at greater than 450 mg/litre of air for greater than 8 hours at a temperature greater than 38°C and a relative humidity greater than 80%.

Article 2.9.2.7.

*Veterinary Administrations of importing countries* should require:

for honey, honey bee-collected pollen, propolis and royal jelly

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that these products were collected in:

- 1) a country or zone free from American foulbrood; or
- 2) apiaries:
  - a) located in a country or zone with an official control programme for American foulbrood;
  - b) in that no clinical sign of American foulbrood was reported during the 45 days prior to collection (not including the wintering period which may vary according to the country);
  - c) in that hives were subjected to inspection for American foulbrood in accordance with point 4 of Article 2.9.2.2. on two occasions with negative results, the first inspection being carried out at least 4 months and no more than 12 months, and the second sample no more than 7 days, prior to collection.